



Managing Your Water Use Wisely

Water conservation can become a lifestyle. Making small behavioral changes can help you develop habits that will reduce your overall use of water as well as saving money on your utility bill.

A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water a day—and a larger leak can waste hundreds of gallons!

To help you save money—and water—here are a few good ideas to put into practice:

- ◆ Check toilets for leaks
- ◆ Replace dripping faucets
- ◆ Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators
- ◆ Insulate water pipes

- ◆ Take shorter showers
- ◆ Run only full loads in the dishwasher and clothes washer
- ◆ Water lawns and gardens in the early morning to reduce evaporation
- ◆ Landscape with drought-tolerant plants, taking advantage of native plants

Have Confidence in Your Community Water System

Every Community Water System (CWS) is required by law to provide its customers with a water quality report also known as a **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)** by July 1st of each year.

You're receiving this newsletter with your 2012 Consumer Confidence Report. This report is a yearly record of water quality and lists any regulated contaminants that may have been found during regular testing.

If you'd like to receive future editions of the Utility Department newsletter by email, please email the Utility Department at:

utilities@princegeorgeva.org

If you'd like to receive the newsletter and don't have access to email, call the Utility Department and ask to receive the next edition.

The yearly Consumer Confidence Report is also available in email form.

H₂O Fast Facts

- Water covers approximately 70 % of the Earth's surface.
- A human being can go without food for a month, but he can go without water for only one week.
- Water is the only substance on earth that is naturally found in all its three states: solid (ice), liquid (water) and gas (steam or vapor).
- 75% of your brain and 25% of your bones are made up of water.
- A gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds.
- At 1 drip per second, a faucet can leak 3,000 gallons per year.

What Happens If My Water Service Is Terminated?

If your water service is terminated for nonpayment, the reconnection fee is \$40.00 , and increases in \$40 increments each time service is terminated.

Before water service will be re-stored you must pay the bill with cash, money order, credit or debit card, or cashiers check in the Treasurer's Office. Payment must be made before 5:00 p.m. for Prince George Water customers to have water reconnected that evening. Virginia American customers must make payments before 3:00pm at Prince George County Treasurer's office to have water reconnected that evening.

The utilities department worker who is cutting off your water service can not accept payment.

Dig Smart: Call 811

Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked, but *every* digging job requires a call – even small projects like planting trees and shrubs.



The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs.

Calling 811 before every digging job gets your underground utility lines marked for free and helps prevent undesired consequences.

**Contact the Prince George
Utility Department
at 722-8706**

Is Your Street Sign Showing It's Age?



As they age, street signs can fade and become difficult to read. Call 722-8706 to report a sign that needs replacing.

You probably didn't know, but the Utility Department replaces damaged street signs as well as signs that are knocked over or go missing.

The Utility Department employees make every effort to notice when signs are missing or damaged. But you drive in areas of the county where utility employees may not travel....so help us keep county street signs looking their best by calling the Utility Department (722-8706) if you notice a missing, damaged, or faded sign.

When you call the Utility Department it is helpful to let us know the nature of the problem. If the sign has fallen or been knocked over by a vehicle we try to respond

as soon as possible to retrieve the sign before it is lost. If the sign is missing but the pole is still in place it is helpful to know that also. The Department tries to maintain an inventory of the more popular street signs, so that they may be replaced as quickly as possible. If the sign is not in inventory, the department will need to order the sign from the supplier.

So help us out and the next time you see a downed, missing or damaged street sign; call the Prince George County Utility Department (722-8706). The office hours are 8:30 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. If you call after hours you will be able to leave a message on the voice mail system.